Concord, Mass.

March 1919 (606)

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204

THE CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
105 EAST 22D STREET

MISS J. C. COLCORD
SUPERINTENDENT

TELEPHONE, GRAMERCY 4066
CABLE ADDRESS, CHARITY NEW YORK

March 11, 1919.

To the President,
University of Toronto,
Toronto, Canada.

Dear Sir:

On February 13th I wrote to Dr. R.H.Maciver, who, I understood, was in charge of your department of sociology, extending an invitation to some man student in your Junior Class to join a group of college students whom we are inviting to be our guests for a month next summer, to observe the actual conduct of social work in New York City. I quote some paragraphs from my earlier letter to Dr. Maciver which will explain our purposes and plans in the matter.

"This Society has for several years past experimented with inviting a group of college Juniors in economics and sociology, both men and women, to meet as its guests for a month each summer, and to get some first-hand experience with the social conditions about which they have been studying. Their board is arranged for at settlement houses, the men in one, the women in another, and the Society meets all their expenses, including transportation to and from the University or their homes, whichever may be nearer. The students do field work with families in our district offices three days a week, and the other two days and a half are taken up with trips to see other sorts of social work in operation, and in informal round-table conferences, in which we seek to adjust theory and practice. The trips last year included the Children's Court and the State Industrial Commission, in both of which places actual hearings were in progress; the Lighthouse for the Blind; a large industrial plant, etc.

It is our plan this year to extend the group inviting representatives from sixteen colleges. Invitations have been extended to Colgate, Elmira, Wells, Vassar, Wellesley, Smith, Mount Holyoke, Wesleyan, Trinity, Dartmouth, Williams, Amherst, Syracuse. We are purposely leaving out some of the larger New England colleges, feeling that more interest will be likely to be created among the student body of a small college.

"As you will see, this is a missionary enterprise entirely, our object being to select a representative student in the Junior Class who is prominent not only for scholarship but also for standing and influence among his fellows, and who can return for his Senior year with some authentic experience, and we hope with enthusiasm, for social work and the opportunities it presents, either for a career as a professional worker, or for better citizenship as a volunteer. I should very much like to hear from you whether you think there may be among the men in your Junior Class a group whom you can recommend, and who would want to become candidates for this opportunity. We should be glad to send someone up to the University some time next month, to make a selection from such a group of candidates, if you feel this to be possible.

Not knowing who are your associates in sociology, economics, and psychology, may I suggest that you consult with them, and also, if you will, with any student organization which would be interested to the end that the opportunity may be properly and widely presented to the student body of the University? "

It is entirely possible that our letter to Dr. Maciver may have gone astray and that the substance of it may never, therefore, have been presented to you. Will you give the suggestion some consideration and let us hear from you at your earliest opportunity whether sufficient interest is manifested among the students for a group of them to become candidates for the opportunity? In that case, as stated in my letter to Dr. Maciver, we shall be glad to send someone up to talk with them and help make a final selection.

Sincerely yours,

J C Colcord

Superintendent.

JCC/s

203

March 14th, 1919

Miss J. C. Colcord,

The Charity Organization Society,

105 East 22nd Street,

New York City.

Dear Madam:

I am sorry that you have been so long delayed in receiving an answer to your letter to Professor MacIver. Yesterday, however, he told me that before this you will have had his reply, which was delayed owing to the letter having been mislaid during his absence. Thanking you for the kind offer,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.